NITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: KUBOTA, Katsuhiro, et al.

Group Art Unit: 2833

Serial No.: 10/565,784

Examiner: TA, Tho Dac

Filed: January 25, 2006

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 7550

For. **JUNCTION BLOCK**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: November 28, 2007

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination in response to the Final Office Action mailed July 31, 2007, extended from October 31, 2007 to November 30, 2007 by a one (1) month Petition For Extension of Time. Prior to further examination, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.